

Plain Talks & News

AUGUST, 1972



The suppression of industrialism and the halting of the further development of natural resources have assumed the proportions of a war against natural resources industries.

It is tantamount to a war against the future of America.

This is because the United States will have an additional 75 million to 100 million population by the year 2000. These people will need and demand homes, jobs, transportation and public facilities.

They will live in towns and cities and will require a high level of service. There is no evidence that there will be any attraction in return to wilderness living.

This war which goes on is typified by a situation in California. There, a bill has been introduced in the state legislature which would have the effect of imposing a moratorium on new power plants along the coastline. Electric utilities have made it clear that they will need only 10 half-mile sites for growth to accommodate the electrical energy needs of California for the next 25 years. But the anti-growth warriors in California aren't willing to concede even these maximum five miles for the benefit of electrical energy in a modern society.

People first came to this continent to establish homes and to create a new society and civilization. They didn't want to, and they didn't intend to, live the nomadic life of the Indians in full conformity with a static, natural scene. They

learned to love this superb land, with its mountains, plains, valleys, great rivers and slow-flowing bayous but they changed the natural scene in many ways to make a good life, and as necessary to make that life. There were excesses, to be sure. But industry itself began to take excesses into account a lot of years ago. For its effort, industry has received small thanks.

The economic facts of life show that the country will need more industry and more generated energy in the years ahead, not less. The requirements are spelled out by a people who believe in an advanced, technical society and a high standard of living.

The industry which, to be sure, created some of the problems in the first place is providing the solutions to those problems. The forestry industry, with its tree farms, is a prime example of what is being done. Improvements in mining techniques are the product of industry's own thinking.

The advocates of zero economic growth would strip America of the capacity to meet its own minimum needs in the future. That growth can be accomplished and practically all of the primeval America remaining still be retained and perhaps made even more accessible and enjoyable. Industry itself is working toward that end and ought not to be galled and chivvied for the short-sightedness of some people who seem to want things as they were two centuries ago, or a century ago. This cannot be.

The Anti-growth Warriors

(Editorial published in the Baton Rouge STATE-TIMES June 29, 1972)

Plain Talks & GSU News

Volume 50

Number 7

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Coffee Cup p. 20

Published Monthly By
Public Relations Dept.

GULF STATES UTILITIES CO.

P. O. Box 2951
Beaumont, Texas 77704

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Baton Rouge



Live Wires Picnic p. 12

Member:

LaCombe / Houston

OUR COVER:

Evangeline Downs has become one of Louisiana's best tourist attractions. Located a little north of Lafayette, this racing facility is recognized as one of the finest in the nation. Horace "To-To" LaCombe, Residential Sales Representative, knows the track and its story as well as any man.



EVANGELINE DOWNS

IN JUST SEVEN SHORT YEARS "THE DOWNS"
HAS BECOME AN IMPORTANT FACTOR IN THE
ECONOMY OF THE STATE AND IN JEFFERSON
DAVIS PARISH.

They come from everywhere. From farms and ranches, cities and towns, from isolated Cajun cabins and columned mansions, peoples of all description and from all walks of life blend together as they pass through the turnstiles into the brightly lighted and highly exciting world of horse racing. Names such as Churchill Downs, Pimlico and Hialeah are familiar to all sportsmen. In Lafayette, La., the name is Evangeline Downs.

A beautiful layout five miles north of the Cajun capital city, Evangeline Downs is unique among tracks across the nation. Though modern in its construction, a certain old European flavor is prevalent. A visitor to this track will very likely hear as much French as English being spoken, for Evangeline Downs lies smack in the heart of Acadiana, a section of the state that some people say is more French than France.



Horace "To-To" LaCombe, Residential Sales Representative, left, compares the difference in the style and sizes of the racing saddle he holds with the exercise saddle held by George Arceneaux, Arceneaux, who runs a shop at the track, says the racing saddle itself costs in the neighborhood of \$150.00.

The history of Evangeline Downs since its beginning in 1966 has been one success after another. Motels and hotels around Lafayette are generally booked solid during the weekends of the racing season April through September. In its first year of operation Evangeline Downs added some \$5,000,000 to the local economy.

One of the men in our Lafayette office who has worked closely with the track and watched its growth is Horace "To-To" LaCombe, who himself is as french as Napoleon (even looks like him in a way). Mr. LaCombe is a Residential Sales Representative and looks after the service needs of the track. "The Downs is quite a place," remarks Mr. LaCombe, "you can sit in the club house and see as wide a variety of people as anywhere in the world."

Under the guidance of Norman Faulk, general manager, Evangeline Downs has become one of the show places in South Louisiana. Conventions are scheduled in Lafayette from all parts of the country so that they can visit not only the beautiful and haunting country that has inspired many a poet, but Evangeline Downs as well. The presence of the track offers the tourist a double-barreled treat, and the area has prospered because of it.

The track operates under license of the Louisiana State Racing Commission. Races are held on Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Monday nights, and in 1971 attendance averaged some 4,000 a night.

Owners, trainers and jockeys all have praised the physical layout of Evangeline Downs. The track is a six furlong oval with a sandy loam base. The 550 yard

straightaway can accomodate all the 870 yard quarter horse races, and there is a five furlong chute on the backstretch. Behind the track are 24 red, white and blue barns which hold a maximum 1,018 horses. Other facilities include tack shops, a kitchen and a receiving barn. The track's main structure houses the administrative offices, air conditioned club house and grandstand, and on the lower level is a bleacher-rail-bird area. The paddock is conveniently located so that all track fans can get a look at their choice while being saddled and walked prior to entering onto the track.

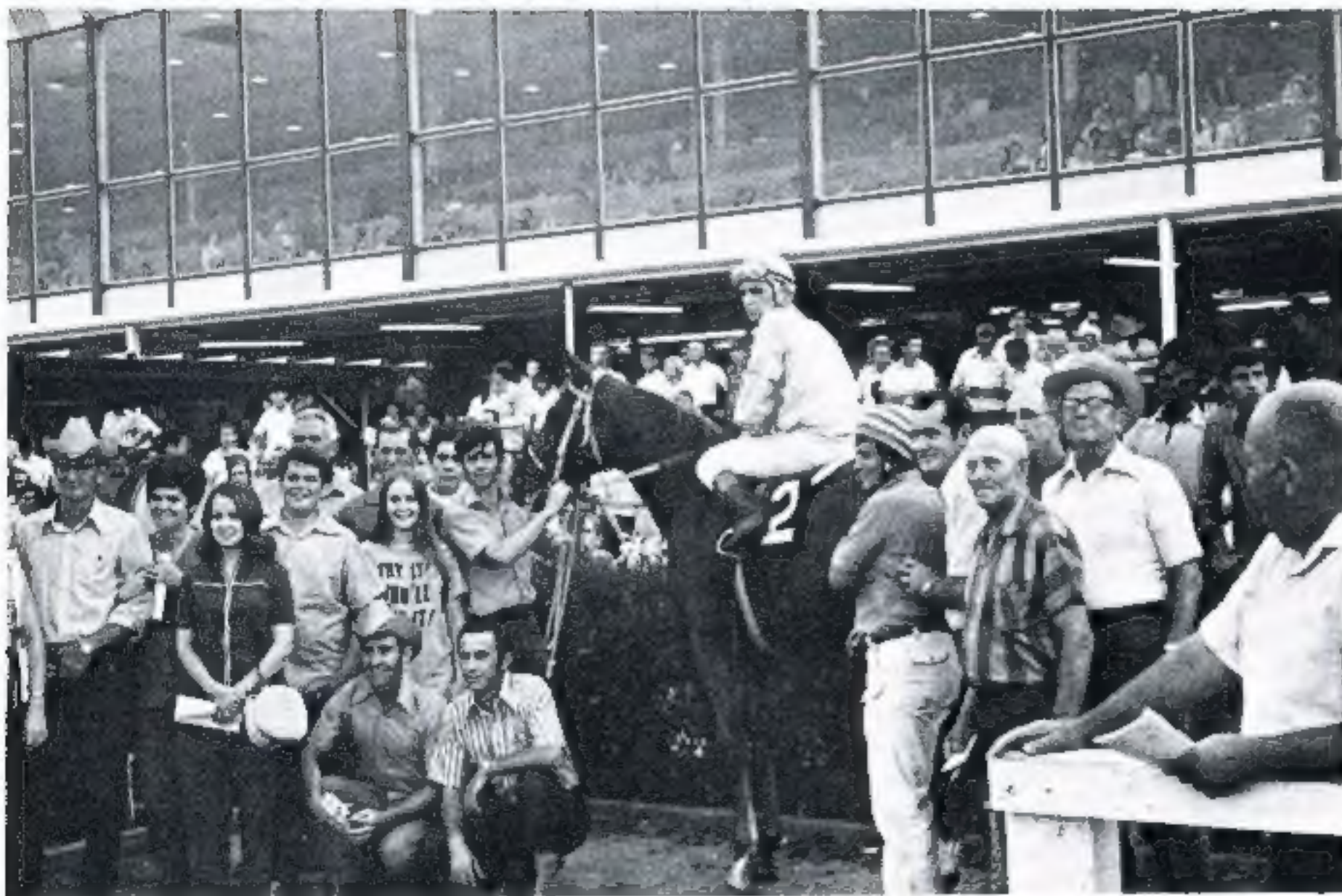
Long before the first racing fan enters the Downs on race night, work is being done. In the barns the horses are wrapped and checked by trainers. Ground crews are at work on the track. Owners contemplate strategy and jockeys receive instructions. Fees are paid, the kitchens are fired up, track security officers take their posts, and on and on and on. Life at a track begins at the crack of dawn and doesn't cease until long after the littered stands are empty.

Evangeline Downs, like other tracks across the world, is a community within a community. The world of horse racing has its own language, its own set of rules. An outsider can sense there is a unique bond that holds these people of the racing world together. The first time at the track you feel almost like an intruder. With each visit though you learn and understand a little more of what its all about.

If you've never been, you owe it to yourself to visit Evangeline Downs. Even if you don't wager, it's quite an experience.

Bet you two to one you'll go back again.





Evangeline Downs on race night is a bee-hive of activity. In these scenes, from left to right, top to bottom, the PLAIN TALKS camera takes you on a quick tour of the track from an angle not seen by many racing fans. In the first photo, Trainer Billy Duhon wraps up Cank Doll, a two year old filly, in the stable area. In the second photo, a nervous thoroughbred is prepared in the paddox area shortly before post time. Jockey Eddie Delahoussaye (2) strides to his mount, Round Road, while another jockey, Erlin Estilette (3), stands ready to get aboard his. In the fourth scene the horses are "off and running" on the first leg of the night's first race. The crowd comes to its feet in the fifth photo as the horses make the turn and start down the home stretch. Top Of The Deck (6) noses out Gentilly Prince to capture the second race in the sixth scene, and Eddie Delahoussaye sits atop Round Road in the winner's circle after winning the first race.



Alden Hine has been with the company for some 45 years, the last 23 as line crew foreman in Jennings. Over the past 22 years he has established a remarkable safety record in that not one man on his crew over the years has suffered a lost time accident.

"Safety Is A Complicated Affair"



Jack Doiron, right, and his assistant George Geiger, have been together for some 16 years. During that time these two men have helped a lot of future linemen become proficient at their job. Good men who listen and ask questions is main reason, according to Mr. Doiron, that he has been able to have 20 years without a lost time accident on his crew.

"When accidents happen it is usually during routine work, and the cause is often inattention." This was a statement recently made by Beaumont Line Crew Foreman Jack Doiron, a foreman who has guided hundreds of linemen during the past 20 years without a single lost time mishap.

Mr. Doiron, and another line crew foreman, Alden Hine of Jennings have established unique records in company history. Mr. Doiron is the only line crew foreman in Texas with a spotless safety record covering 20 years or more, and Mr. Hine is the only T&D foreman in Louisiana who can say the same.

Mr. Hine can carry his safety record even further back than Mr. Doiron. This likeable line foreman has been with the company over 45 years and has never missed a day's work due to accident or illness.

Both of these men have set remarkable records. Linemen, by the very nature of their job, work every day at great heights and around high voltage electricity. The danger is always there. Linemen know it and have a great respect for caution and for their fellow workers. Still, it takes the experience of a veteran line foreman to coordinate the efforts of a line crew to insure that the job is done efficiently and safely.

"Safety is a complicated affair," said Mr. Hine, "it's a combination of a lot of little things. Safety is a full time job. We tend to get a little lax now and then, thinking about our own comfort first."

"I've been very fortunate over the years," said Mr. Doiron, "I've had very good men under me, and I've had a lot of luck. I can look back and remember



Jack T. Doiron is the only line crew foreman in Texas, and one of only two line crew foreman in the entire system, that has guided line crews for 20 years or more without a lost time accident.

numerous close calls." Mr. Doiron's philosophy for safety is a simple one. "I have good people and I know it. I let them alone when they work. I watch them closely, but I don't interfere unless I spot a potential hazard."

Mr. Doiron knows his business. He started off with the company in 1941 as a "grunt," the lowest job on a line crew. Over the years he has performed every job possible for a lineman, and he has done it well. In the 20 years he has been a line crew foreman he has become a symbol of the ideal foreman. He is the only foreman in the entire system who has never had a lost time accident happen to one of his crew. "I hope you can write the same thing ten years from now," he told PLAIN TALKS.

Many men have worked under Mr. Doiron over the years. Some of them have gone on to management positions. He guesses that five or six of his former crews are now line foremen themselves.

"One of the first things I tell a new man on my crew is to read the Accident Control Manual which is issued by the company to all new men. I tell them to read that book and know it. I encourage them to ask questions, plenty of questions. That's the only way a man can learn," Doiron went on to praise the Safety Department of the company. "We have a fine safety program here. Ray (Ray Thompson, Safety Representative) used to be one of us, and knows how to put on a good program."

"I'm proud of my record," said Mr. Hine. "I've only got 15 months to go before I retire. I've been with the company since October of 1927, and I've never missed a day's work due to accident or illness."

Over the years Mr. Doiron has seen many advances made in the T&D Department. "I guess the biggest help the lineman has received in my 20 years is the boom truck. Putting a man in that bucket and sending him up has undoubtedly saved many linemen from painful accidents, and even death. Those trucks are worth every penny they cost (approximately \$40,000 per truck).

On the job Mr. Doiron watches out for his men much like a mother hen after her chicks. Off the job he is very much a family man. He and his wife Lillian talk with pride about their two sons, Mike and Clint. Both men are studying to become doctors, and there is already a granddaughter in their life. "We are real proud of those boys," said Mr. Doiron.

Mr. Hine is married to the former Wilda Robert of Jennings, and they have five children and two grandchildren. One daughter, Genee' Foley is a practice teacher at the University of Southwestern Louisiana in Lafayette; another daughter will enter Northwestern State University this fall, and his two other daughters, Darla Leah and Andra are both students at Jennings High School. His only son, Dane, is currently a student at Northwestern.

Both of these line foremen speak with pride about their crews over the years. They are proud of their men, and they are proud of their families. Maybe it's this pride that makes them something special, something above the ordinary.



Alden Hine, here giving instructions to one of his linemen, says there is no pat answer to the question of safety. "It's a combination of a lot of things, and is on our minds constantly."

"Thank God!"

Line Foreman Saves Child



Young Tarren Maple probably has already forgotten what nearly happened to him, but for Earl Garvin the memory will always be vivid. "It's not something a man is ever likely to forget," said Mr. Garvin.

It started out just like any other working day in the life of Earl Garvin, line foreman in Beaumont, but before the morning was over he would save the life of a seven month old infant and add a memory to his life that he will never forget.

Tuesday morning, June 13, Mr. Garvin and his line crew were assigned to change out some power lines in the 4800 block of Larado Street. While in the midst of their work a woman, Mrs. George Maple, ran from a nearby house screaming for help. "My God my baby my baby."

Two other employees, W. V. Williams and Antoine Roberts, were nearest the house and rushed in side to see what the trouble was. Mr. Garvin was right behind them. "She had the baby in her arms and was highly excited," said Mr. Garvin. "I grabbed the boy not really knowing what was wrong with him, I just knew he wasn't breathing."

Mr. Garvin said that it took him several seconds to realize that the baby was choking on something. "All the safety training I've ever had flashed through my mind," said Mr. Garvin. He immediately blew into the baby's mouth and gently pressed his chest. "When I realized something was lodged in his throat I turned him upside down and began striking him on the back." Finally, after several attempts according to Mr. Garvin, the baby began to spit up what was later found to be grits. Mr. Garvin continued mouth to mouth resuscitation until the boy was breathing comfortably on his own.

"That boy was as limp as a rag," said Mr. Garvin, "Thank God I was able to get him breathing again. That's what really scared me. What if I couldn't get him breathing again, what if I had lost him."

During all of this Mr. Williams had gone to summon an ambulance. When it arrived Mr. Garvin asked the men to go inside and check the boy, just to be sure. Everything was apparently back to normal and for the first time in what seemed like hours, both Mr. Garvin and Mrs. Maple took a normal breath.

"I'm a trained nurse," said Mrs. Maple, "but it's just so different when your own child is involved. All I could think of was getting help, thank the Lord you all were out there."

Young Tarren Maple is alive today thanks to the quick action of Mr. Garvin. In all his 24 years with the company nothing like this had ever happened to him. "I once helped save a neighbor's house from burning down," Mr. Garvin said, "but never before did anybody's life depend on my knowing what to do. You just can't believe it will ever happen to you. It pays to be trained. After all, that child could just as easily have been my own grandchild. Anybody that doesn't pay attention to those safety meetings --- better from now on."

Mr. Garvin took a long slow breath and then very seriously said, "Thank God, I knew what to do --- thank God."

GSU NEWS

Earl Broussard Honored With Highest FFA Award

Earl Broussard, Area Development representative in Lafayette, was awarded the highest honor possible by the Louisiana Future Farmers of America Association at that organization's annual banquet in Baton Rouge recently.

For Mr. Broussard, the award was the culmination of 15 years of work with the organization around the Lafayette area. The honor was given in "recognition of outstanding service rendered to the associate and regular members of the Louisiana Association of Future Farmers of America."

Working with farm youth is nothing new to Mr. Broussard. In addition to his own sons, Mr. Broussard is "on call" as an advisor for 12 different chapters in the Southwest Louisiana area. Over 700 youth depend on that advice.

"Working with these kids keeps a man young," Mr. Broussard said, "at least it keeps him 'thinking' young," he amended. Mr. Broussard explained that the FFA, the part he is involved with, has as its aim to teach every young farmer the basics of electricity as found around the farm. This includes teaching them how to repair electric motors, wiring, welding and many other items.

"Contrary to the popular belief," said Mr. Broussard, "farming today is not a two mule operation. A farmer has got to know how to maintain his equipment. He has got to have a small repair shop on his farm and know how to operate that shop

efficiently. Electricity and welding are the two most important items today's farmer must have some knowledge about. Without that knowledge he just can't survive for long."

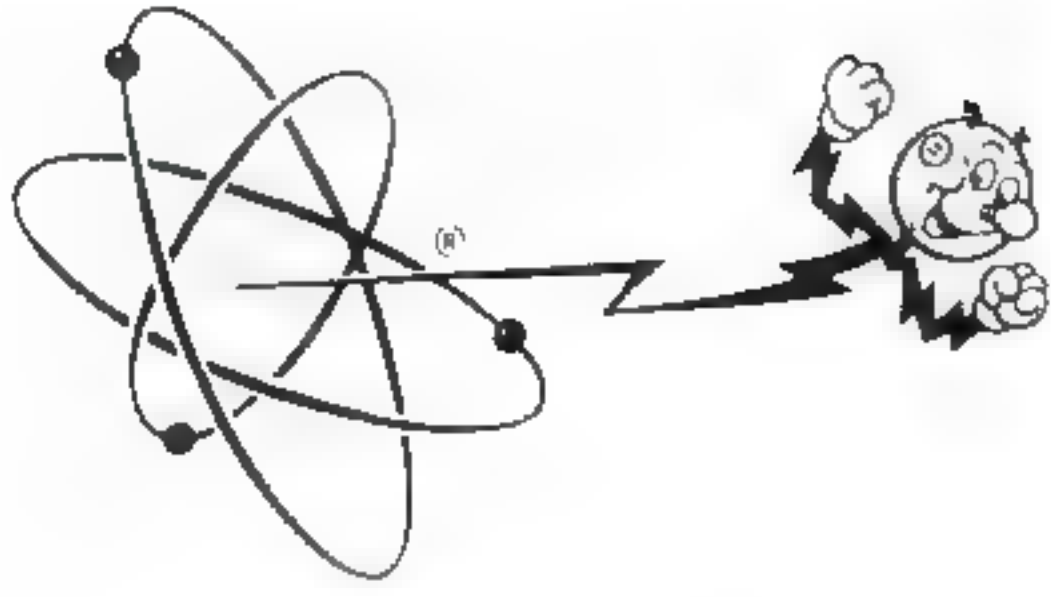
In order to help promote the learning of such knowledge, Mr. Broussard has become a member of a committee known as the Farm Electrification Committee. Not only is he a member, but serves as chairman of this committee for 1972. The committee is trying to get specific courses introduced on the college level. These

courses would cover the basics of electricity as found around the farm. "If we can get such study plans as these into the curriculum of college agricultural students, the benefit to them would be tremendous." This is just one of the projects of the committee. The committee operates on funds donated by our company, along with other Louisiana utilities (SWEPCO, LP&L and CLECO).

Mr. Broussard and other advisors across the state update themselves continually. Each year the men attend a
(Continued on next page)



Earl Broussard, Area Development Representative in Lafayette, has been awarded the honorary State Farmer Degree by the Louisiana Future Farmers of America Association. The award is the highest honor possible, and is given for outstanding service to the Association.



DID YOU KNOW?

...the 22 General Electric Boiling Water Reactors currently under operation account for 60 percent of the world's U.S. produced light water capacity? Or that GE now has 68 BWR units either operating, under construction, or on order world-wide with a total capacity of more than 54,000,000 kilowatts?

Company Buys BWR/6 Nuclear Reactor Unit

An agreement was reached last month between our company and the General Electric Company for the purchase of a nuclear steam supply system for River Bend Station near St. Francisville, La.

The \$30,000,000 nuclear steam supply system (GE BWR/6) will have a capacity of 940,000 kilowatts. The company also has an option to purchase another such generating unit, according to S. L.

Adams, senior vice president for engineering and production.

"The boiling water reactor was chosen," said Roger Moore, nuclear planning engineer, "because of economy, safety, reliability and experience." Mr. Moore went on to say that Stone & Webster, NUS (formerly called Nuclear Utilities Service), and the company had studied various types of reactors before deciding on the General Electric model.

"The reactor," said Mr. Adams, "is the first major component of the nuclear power plant to be purchased by the company. This equipment replaces the boiler of a conventional power plant as the facility that manufactures the steam to turn the turbo-generators."

BROUSSARD (from page 9)

workshop near Bunkie, La. where various experts from universities and businesses teach them the latest techniques of working with electricity. "We get only the best to teach us," said Mr. Broussard, "we get first class treatment."

Still another aspect of the FFA organization is individual recognition of outstanding FFA youth. Each year an Electrification Contest is held in the various districts. From local parish competition the top ten youth from each district compete. The winners then go on to state competition with the final judgement being made during the annual convention. As usual, Mr. Broussard was in the thick of things and headed up his district's competition at the University of Southwestern Louisiana in Lafayette.

"We used to have a much broader program in years past," said Mr. Broussard. Years ago one of the main jobs of men such as Jim Richardson, Aubrey Sprawls, Vice Norvell, Charley Glass and Dick Krouse was to work with the farmers as Agricultural Engineers. These men did a great job. I think we need a similar program now."



This group of happy and successful anglers is just part of a large contingent of Boy Scouts that recently gathered at Lewis Creek for a Fishoree. Some 148 scouts of all sizes and with all kinds of equipment fished our Lewis Creek Reservoir. Members of several Conroe area Bass Clubs, and representatives from fishing tackle manufacturers were on hand to help out. Some 700 pounds of bass were caught by the boys.

National Organization Formed For Research

Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI), a new national organization has been formed to sponsor research for the electric utility industry, it was announced by EPRI Chairman of the Board, William G. Meese, who is also President and Chief Executive Officer of The Detroit Edison Co.

In announcing formation of EPRI, which will assume the responsibilities of

the Electric Research Council (ERC), Mr. Meese said the Institute's purpose is "to provide a means by which the various segments of the electric utility industry can join in cooperatively sponsoring research of nationwide importance to the electric utility industry."

Representatives of organizations on the Electric Research Council have been named to the Board of the new Institute. At the present time, ERC organizations under the operation of the Council are cooperatively sponsoring or supporting 14 projects with a total cost of approximately \$40.5 million.

"The energy crisis is one of the great challenges facing our nation today," Mr. Meese said. "It threatens the very basis of our economic system. We must find ways to meet that crisis with minimum adverse environmental effects and at a price that reflects economic realities."

Mr. Meese said that top research priorities in the electric utility industry are:

-Developing processes which will enable the nation's vast coal reserves

to be used in conventional electric generating systems with minimal environmental effect.

-Bringing the "fast breeder" nuclear reactor, which produces more fuel than it consumes, into commercial availability by the mid 1980s.

-Establishing the feasibility of fusion reactors within five to eight years.

Golf Anyone?

Glenn Stokes in Baton Rouge is setting up another golf tournament for employees and extends an invitation to all you duffers. Response in the Baton Rouge area has been very good, and Glenn wants to know how many in the rest of the system would like to play.

The tournament will be held in September at one of three courses. Tentative plans call for a shotgun start, with barbeque and liquid refreshments to follow.

If you are interested, just fill out below and mail to Glenn via company mail and he will send you the details:

Yes Glenn I am interested in playing. Please send me information about your tournament.

Name: _____

Dept: _____

Location: _____

Spafford Is Man Of Month

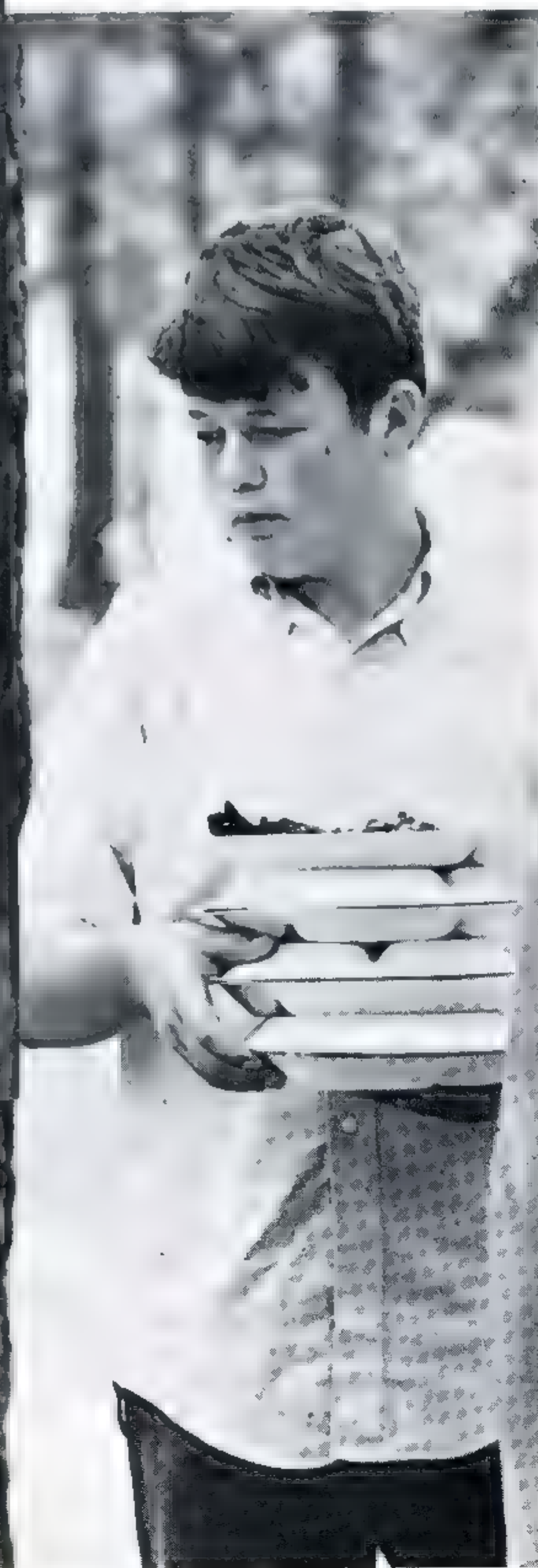
Ralph Spafford, supervisor-Residential and Commercial Sales in Beaumont, has been named Membership Salesman of the Month for April and May according to a status report issued by the Beaumont chamber.

Spafford, said co-chairmen Ted Moor Jr., and Roland Chandley, has sold 10 new memberships in the chamber for a total of \$1,050.00

O. F. "Skeeter" Peveto of the Orange Line Department finishes installation of the first mercury vapor street light in the city of Pinehurst. Looking on from below are, left to right, A. R. Morgan, councilman; Ernest Taylor, mayor pro-tem; and T. O. "Doc" Charlton, Orange District superintendent. When finished there will be 66 of the lights installed at various intersections.

**Photos by
Julia Kearney
John Roby**





*Live Wires
Picnic*



Jim DeCordova, right, chairman of the Agricultural Committee, presents the Rev. and Mrs. Glenn Harris with a plaque honoring him as "Farmer of the Year" in Jefferson Davis Parish.

BY ASSOCIATION OF COMMERCE

Farmer Of Year Named At Jennings

Rev. Glenn Harris of Roanoke, La., has been named by Jefferson Davis Parish merchants, businessmen, civic and governmental leaders as the "Farmer of the Year" for 1972. The announcement was made by the Jennings Association of Commerce.

According to Hutt Reed, district superintendent of Jennings and president of the Jennings Association of Commerce, this award is made annually by the parish to the man who best exemplifies the ideals of farming.

John Compton of Roanoke was named the outstanding rice farmer, while Ray Hardy of Iowa was named the outstanding soybean farmer. Fay Byler of Lake Arthur won the cattle farming award.

In addition to Reed, two other

company men, Eddie Blair and Martin Wagnon of Jennings are members of the agricultural committee that selected the winners.

Rev. Harris, now 66 years young, began farming when 25 years old. The Reverend farms some 1,200 acres, planting rice and soybeans as well as raising 125 head of cattle.

He has long been active in civic affairs as well as affairs of his church. He is married to the former Ethel Sherfy, a Kansas native, and they have three children.

"In order for a man to win this award," said Mr. Reed, "he must meet very demanding qualifications. He must be an all-around farmer and active in his community. Rev. Harris meets all of the requirements and more."

Thrift Plan

Purchases of Gulf States Utilities Company stock made by the Trustee during June, 1972 covering employee deductions and company contributions through May, 1972 were as follows:

4,234 shares of Common Stock at a total cost of \$77,615.26 or an average cost per share of \$18.331.

84 shares of \$4.40 Preferred Stock at a total cost of \$5,301.18 or an average cost per share of \$63.109.

The Trustee deposited \$39,261.04 with the Savings Department of the First Security National Bank of Beaumont.



Randy McAlpine, manager of the Port Arthur Division, has been re-elected to the Board of Directors of the East Texas Chamber of Commerce. The announcement was made in the official publication of the Chamber, East Texas magazine.

Retirements



Edgar L. Bailey



Harry H. Faulk



Roy Burk



Edward B. Picou

Edgar L. Bailey, treasurer of the company, retires September 1, after more than 44 years of service.

Mr. Bailey has been treasurer of the company since February of 1964, and previously served as assistant treasurer for seven years.

A native of Litcher, La., he is a graduate of a business college, and has completed the Public Utilities Management Training Program at the University of Michigan, a management program for executives at the University of Pittsburgh, and management schools at the University of Texas and Louisiana State University.

He was employed by the Baton Rouge Electric Company, a forerunner of the company in 1928. After advancing through various accounting positions in Baton Rouge, he was transferred to Beaumont as senior accountant in 1948. He moved up to supervisor-general accounting in 1950.

In 1953, Mr. Bailey was transferred to Lake Charles as chief clerk of the division, and in 1957 he returned to Beaumont as assistant Treasurer.

Mr. Bailey and his wife, the former Iris L. Landry of New Orleans, have two children. They are Sandra L. Bailey of Houston, and Brian L. Bailey of Glen Ellyn, Illinois.

Quite active in civic affairs, Mr. Bailey is past president of the National Office Management Association; director of the Exchange Club of Beaumont; member of the Beaumont Club; Beaumont Chamber

of Commerce and the chamber's State and National Affairs Committee and Human Relations Committee and Little League and Pony League baseball.

The Baileys are members of St. Ann's Catholic Church.

Mr. Bailey plans to spend most of his time traveling and playing as many new golf courses as possible. He also wants to tour our nation, fish and hunt.

Mr. Bailey fondly recalls his most memorable moment with the company, "It was when my wife was employed by the company. We met, courted and were married."

Harry H. Faulk, foreman-Gas Department in Baton Rouge, is retiring September 1, after some 32 years of service.

The Fayette, Miss. native joined the company in 1940 as a truck driver. From there he received numerous promotions to various jobs such as serviceman 2nd class, welder 2nd class, welder first class and then to foreman. All of these came in the gas department in Baton Rouge.

Mr. Faulk is married to the former Susie Lea Nettles of Gloster, Miss. They have two daughters, Mary Pearl Cutrer, and Lillian Aline Conway, and six grandchildren.

Mr. Faulk is a deacon and usher in the Laurel Lea Baptist Church of Baton Rouge, and is active in scout work. He plans to travel, hunt, fish and just take it easy during his retirement years. His most memorable moment with the company came when his department moved into the new Choctaw Service Center.

Roy Burk, Production-Louisiana Station, is retiring to the easy life September 1, after almost 28 years of service.

Mr. Burk joined the company in 1944 following time in the Army. He began as a laborer at Louisiana Station and was promoted to special laborer in 1954.

A Baton Rouge native, Mr. Burk is married to the former Velma Hackett of Baton Rouge. They have two children, Leroy and Maddie, and three grandchildren.

Mr. Burk is a Deacon at St. Mark's Baptist Church.

As for retirement, Mr. Burk says he just plans to "piddle around" his home in Baton Rouge, and also work some on a small farm he has in the country.

Edward B. Picou, Treasury-Baton Rouge, retires September 1, after 45 years of service with company.

Mr. Picou joined the company in 1927 as a meter reader. From there he advanced to senior meter reader in 1949 and then on to collector in the Treasury Department. All of his time has been spent in the Baton Rouge Division.

A native of New Orleans, Mr. Picou is a graduate of Catholic High School. He is married to the former Violet Babin of Hope Villa, La. The couple has three children, Mrs. Lawson Threeton of Baker, La.; Edward B. Picou, Jr., of New Orleans, and Marie Louise Picou of Baton Rouge.

One of his proudest accomplishments while with the company is the logging of 36 years of driving a company vehicle without a single accident.

The Picous are members of St. George Catholic Church, and he is a member of the Ushers Society of that church.

Plans for retirement call for the Picous to visit all 50 states "to see some of the things we missed on our first trip across the nation."

His proudest moment at the company came when he received his service pin for 40 years of faithful service.

People On The Move



Robert Sheffield

Robert A. Sheffield, formerly an accounting supervisor in System Treasury at Beaumont, has been transferred to Silsbee and promoted to superintendent.

Mr. Sheffield's appointment fills the vacancy created by the death last month of G. Ross Iles, former superintendent.

A native of Woodville, Tex., Mr. Sheffield graduated from Kirby High School there. He also holds a bachelor of business administration degree from Lamar University.

Since joining the company, Mr. Sheffield has worked in building maintenance and drafting in addition to holding various accounting positions.

Mr. Sheffield is a member of the YMCA and has served as an adult advisor in the Junior Achievement program.

Married to the former Frances Hughes of Silsbee, the couple has two children. They are David, 10, and Carrie, 8. The Sheffields attend the Baptist church.

Three men have moved up in Beaumont T&D-Substation. Jack E. Strickland has advanced to substation foreman while Paul Lamar and Charles L. Powell have been promoted to utility foremen.

Mr. Strickland, an employee of the company since 1952, has worked in line-man and serviceman posts in addition to substation work. He had been utility foreman since August, 1971.



Jack E. Strickland

A native of Beaumont, he is a graduate of French High School. He is a Navy veteran, having served from 1948 to 1952.

Mr. Strickland holds memberships in the Beaumont Amateur Radio Club and the National Association of Watch and Clock Collectors. He is married to the former Jean Willingham of Houston.

Mr. Lamar joined the company in 1951. He has progressed through various classifications in the substation department.

Born in Beaumont, Mr. Lamar graduated from Beaumont High School. He is a veteran of the Navy.

Mr. Lamar and his wife, the former Betty Jean Zernial, have two married daughters, Mrs. Larry Frazier and Mrs. Jim White, both of Beaumont.



Paul Lamar

Mr. Powell has worked for the company since 1957, starting out in the line department. He moved up through various substation mechanic classifications.

A native of Greenville, Miss., Mr. Powell graduated from French High School in Beaumont. He served in the Marine Corps from 1954 to 1957.

Mr. Powell, who resides in Nederland, is active in the Little League program of the area.

Married to the former Martha Block of Port Neches, Mr. Powell and his wife have four children.



Charles R. Powell

Douglas G. Olson, an employee of the company since 1957, has been promoted to administrative assistant in the plant accounting section of System Treasury at Beaumont.

Mr. Olson has held a number of accounting posts in System Treasury, Beaumont Division Treasury and Information and Data Services.

A native of Beaumont, he graduated from French High School and attended Lamar University.

Mr. Olson attends North End Methodist Church in Beaumont.



Douglas G. Olson

Bobby K. Feagin



Bobby L. Feagin, a 16-year employee of the company, has been promoted to utility foreman in Navasota T&D.

Mr. Feagin joined the company at Huntsville in 1956 and was transferred to Navasota in 1960. He has progressed through various lineman classifications.

A native of Waller County, he is a graduate of Waller High School. He is a Navy veteran, having served from 1952 to 1956.

Mr. Feagin and his wife, the former Marvis O'Haver of Hempstead, have two children, Kenneth, 14, and Elizabeth Ann, 10. The family attends the First Baptist Church of Navasota.

P. A. Levine, formerly maintenance planner at Roy S. Nelson Station, has been promoted to mechanical maintenance foreman.

An employee of the company since 1958, Mr. Levine has progressed through various power plant posts. He had served as maintenance planner since 1967.

Mr. Levine attended public schools in Mobile, Ala., and is a graduate of Murphy High School there. He also has completed electrical and mechanical trades courses at Sowela Tech in Lake Charles. He is a four-year veteran of the Coast Guard.

Mr. Levine serves as an adult leader in both the Boy Scout and Cub Scout programs, and he is active in the Westlake Little League program. He also is a member of the Lake Charles Amateur Radio Club.

Married to the former Jeanne Faupel of Cumberland, Md., Mr. Levine and his wife have three children, Michael, 13, Jeri, 11, and Todd, 9. The family attends St. John Bosco Catholic Church.

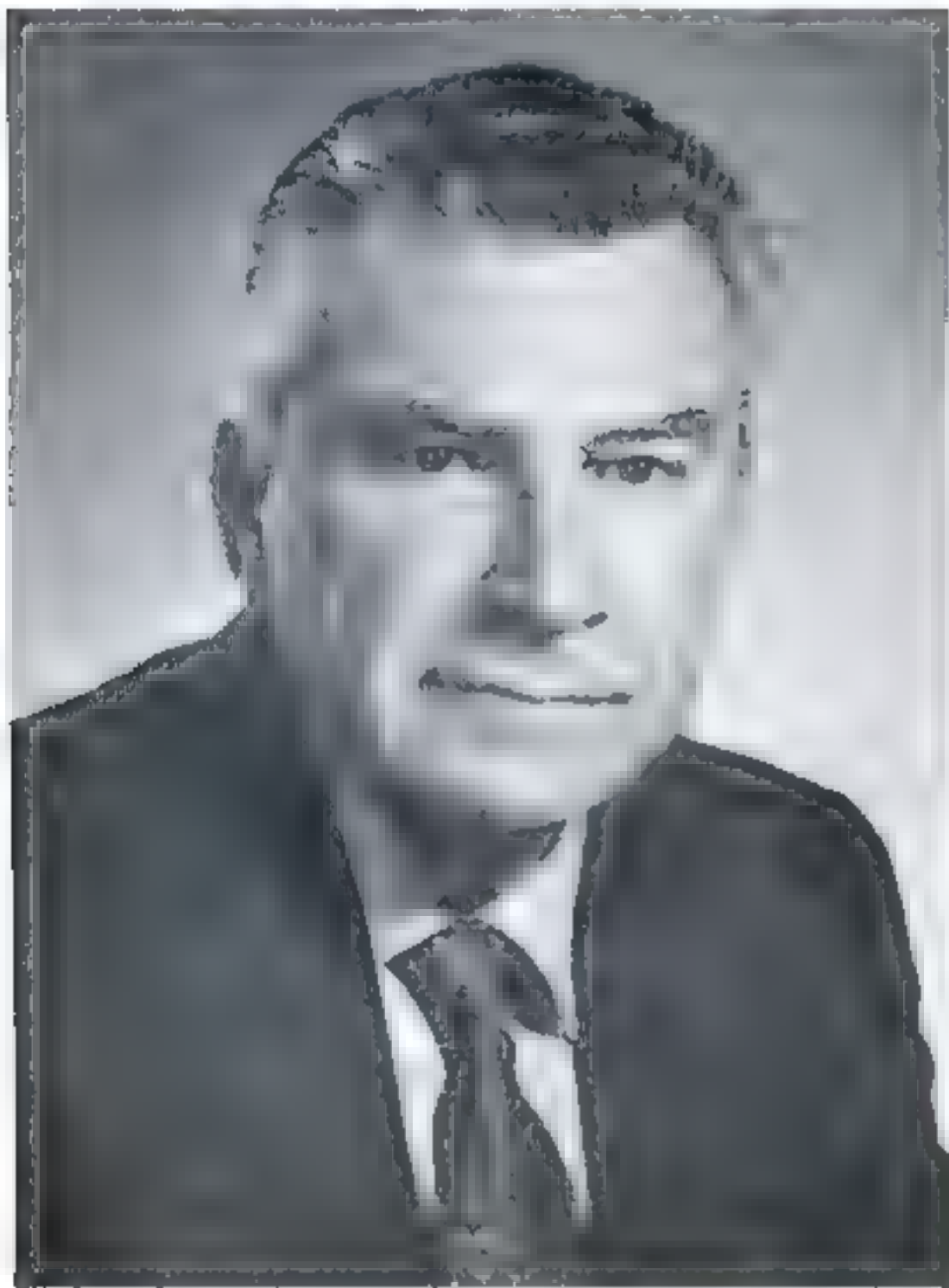
P. A. Levine



SERVICE

THIRTY YEARS

FORTY YEARS



James K. Powell
Distribution
Lafayette



Burton C. Cannon
Production
Lake Charles



Ramey Kirkwood, Jr.
Production
Baton Rouge



James E. Peveto
Production
Bridge City



Aaron Sanders
Production
Baton Rouge

TWENTY



Eugene Andre
Production
Baton Rouge

YEARS



Jessie M. Dyer
Treasury
Beaumont



Lynell J. Henry
Production
Baton Rouge



Alexander Valerie, Jr.
Production
Lake Charles



Nathan J. Thibodeaux
Distribution
Baton Rouge

AWARDS

TEN YEARS



James W. Bates
Distribution
Lake Charles



Betty T. Dickschat
Treasury
Navasota



Betty C. Edmiston
Engineering
Beaumont



James L. Harvey
Gas
Baton Rouge



Robert L. Hill
Production
Bridge City



Eddie J. Hills
Gas
Baton Rouge



Manfield Hollin
Gas
Baton Rouge



Lawrence Jordan
Treasury
Denham Springs



Fred E. Kressman
Production
Bridge City



Glenda Sims
Treasury
Beaumont



Kelton Whitehead
Treasury
Baton Rouge



If you have any story you think is interesting and would like to see in PLAIN TALKS, just contact the reporter nearest you, and he (or she) will see that it gets to the editor. A complete list of the reporters and their location can be found on the first page of each Coffee Cup section.

REPORTERS

Lewis Creek Station



Gary Cockrill and Danny Gilbert of Conroe have teamed up to coach a boys freshman baseball team. The two men have started off with a bang as their Odom Trailer team opened the season with an 11-1 victory. Gary is at left standing, and Danny is at far right. Gary is an equipment operator, and Danny is an electrician, both at Lewis Creek Station. (from James Veatch)

If you have any news for "Plain Talks," simply send the information to one of the following local reporters. They will be happy to assist you in getting the material to the Editor.

BATON ROUGE: Henry Joyner, Margie Force (T&D), Fay Hebert (T&D), T. Boone Chaney (T&D), Melanie Hima (T&D), Charles L. Miller (T&D), Jack Gautreaux (T&D), Clyde Cannon (T&D), James W. Bello (T&D), Beverly Hull (Gas), Opal Temple (Acct.), Robert Graves (T&D).

BEAUMONT: Linda McSwain (S.C.), Bill Toups (S.C.), Barbara Lindsey, Ann Ogden, Edy Waltmon, Linda Marks.

CALVERT: Janis E. Wilganowski.

CLEVELAND: Pat Jones, Edd Mitchell.

CONROE: Frances Elliot.

DENHAM SPRINGS: Lenelle Juban.

GONZALES: Billy Fortenberry.

HUNTSVILLE: Dewey Allbritton.

JENNINGS: Earl Mayfield.

LAFAYETTE: Bobbie Denais.

LAKE CHARLES: Johnnie Harris (T&D, Pam Case.

LA. STATION: Leslie Jeansonne.

LEWIS CREEK: James Veatch.

MADISONVILLE: Wanda H. Tinsley.

NAVASOTA: Betty Dickschat.

NECHES STATION: Gene Russell, Hazel Higginbotham.

NELSON STATION: Martha Caldwell.

ORANGE: Davie Carpenter.

PORT ALLEN: Adele Vavasseur.

PORT ARTHUR: Sue Williams, Lorraine Dunham (S.C.).

SABINE STATION: Kathleen Fuller.

SILSBEE: Maxie Bell.

SULPHUR: Pearl Darbonne.

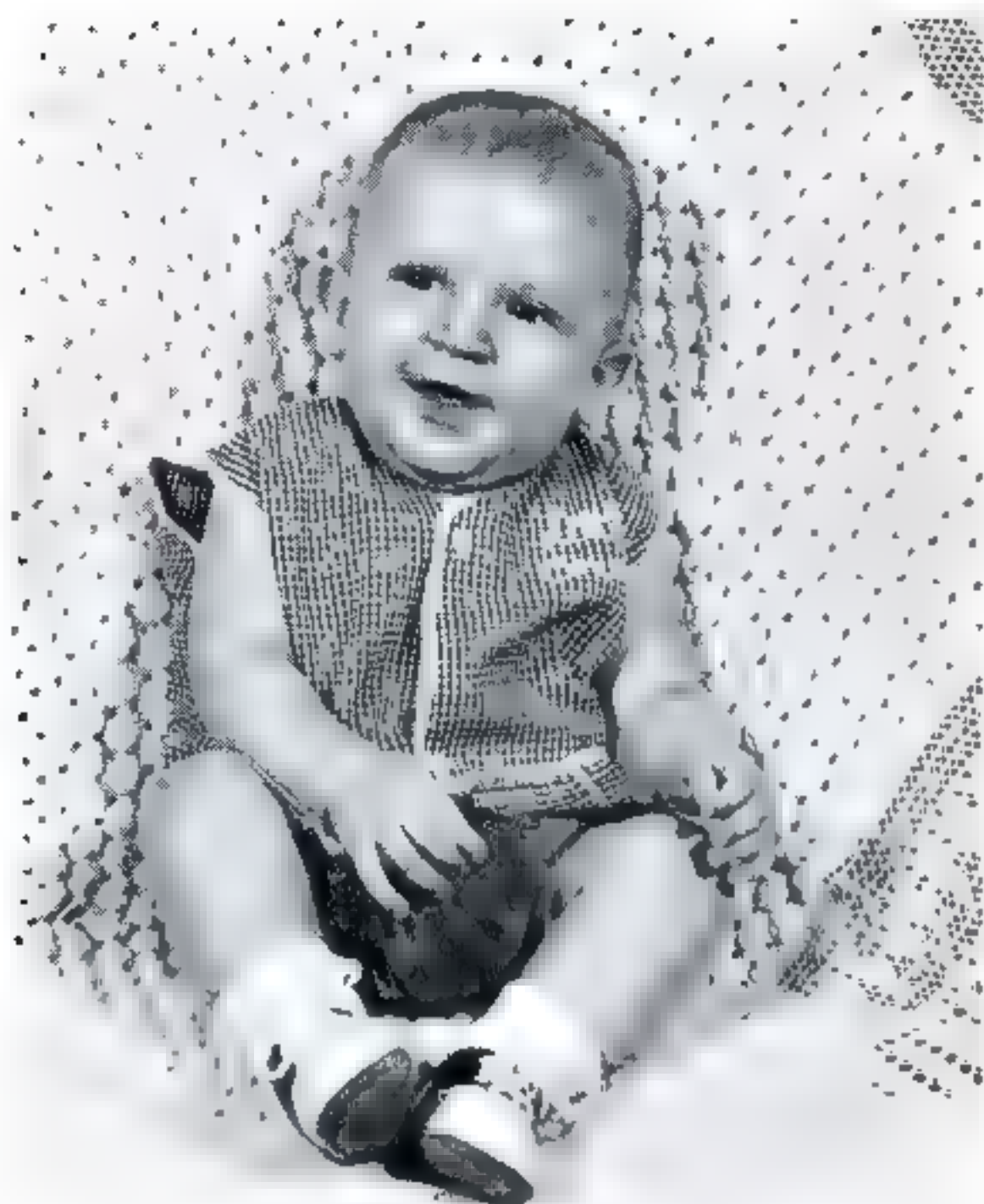
WILLOW GLEN: Dora Landaiche.

WOODVILLE: Alene Waggoner.

ZACHARY: Myra Kirby.

(Editor's Note: If any of the above reporters are no longer reporting or with the company, we would appreciate knowing about it. This holds true also if any reporter's name has been omitted.)

—Conroe—



Four month old Christopher Stout, son of Bobby R. Stout (Conroe T&D), poses for his first formal portrait. Young Chris was born in January. (from Frances Elliott)

—Calvert—



James E. Stout, superintendent of the Calvert office, and his wife were the guests of honor recently at a going away party hosted by the Western Division. Bill Richard, center, Western Division manager, presented the Stouts with a gift. Mr. Stout has been with the company for 24 years. (from Janis Wilganowski)

Jo Ann and "Beau" Miller attended the Dayton '500' at Daytona Beach, Florida in February. In May, they attended the Winston '500' at Talladega (Ala.) International Speedway. Jo Ann is Personnel Steno in Baton Rouge. (from Opal Temple)

—Baton Rouge—



Nikki Falcon, center, Baton Rouge-Division Treasury, happily agrees that diamonds are a girl's best friend, especially when the diamond happens to be part of an engagement ring. Nikki earlier received another ring as a joke from her fellow co-workers. That same night she was given a real thing by her intended Leo Gautreau. Molly Falgoust, left, and Linda Allen, right, look on and admire. (from Opal Temple)



Suzanne De Laune, who (it sez here) is 13 going on 17, has been accepted into the Beta Club after much hard work and determination. She is a student at Denham Springs Junior High School, and is completing the 8th grade. Her proud parents are Mr. and Mrs. Herbert De Laune. (from Henry Joyner)



This is Laurie Michelle Yarbrough, daughter of Johnny and Janice Yarbrough. Laurie was born Jan. 14. Her proud Dad is a residential sales representative in Baton Rouge. (from Opal Temple)



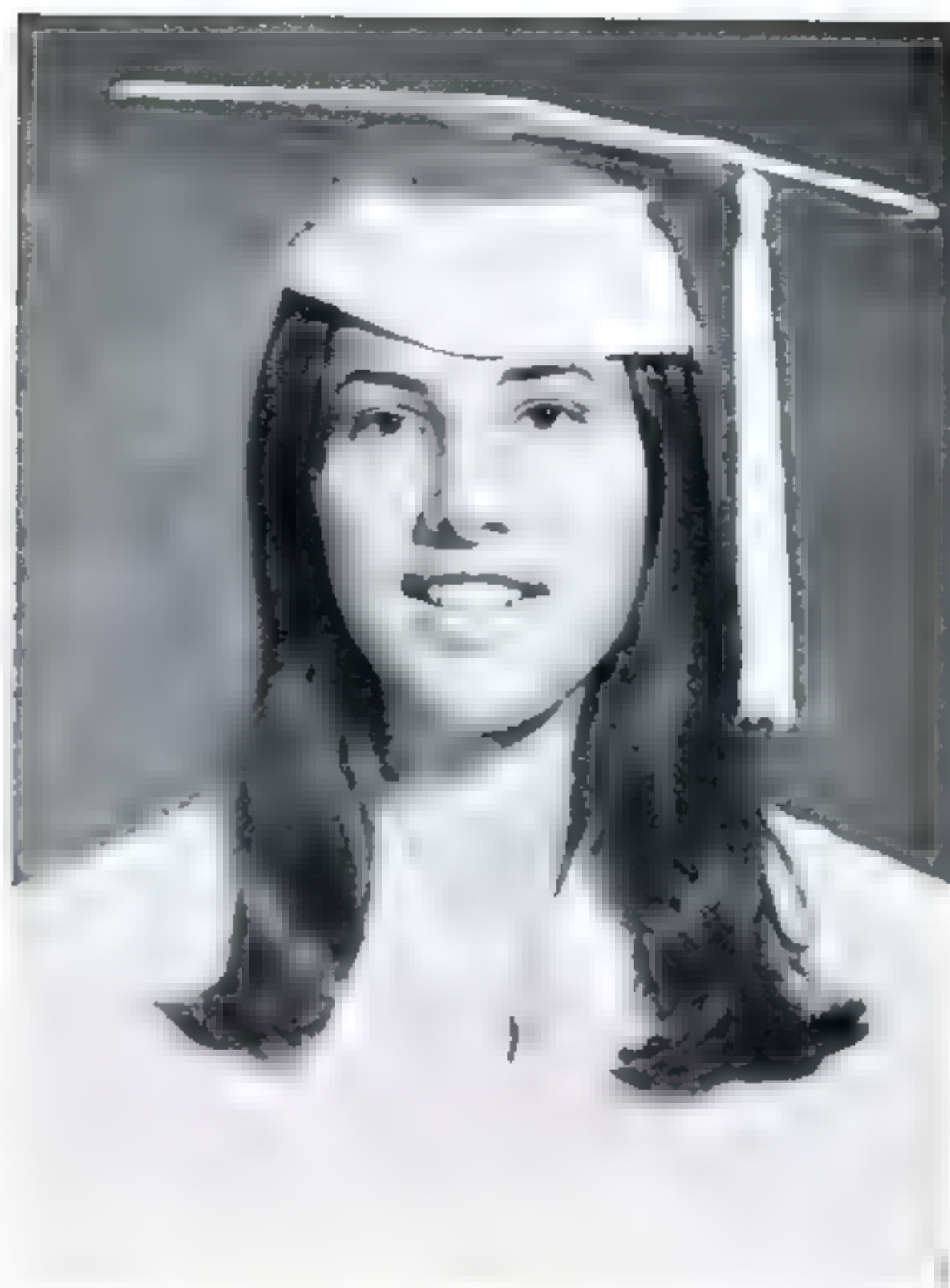
This young cowboy is Ricky Anderson, five year old son of Brenda Anderson, clerk in the Baton Rouge Customer Accounting Department. Ricky will be a first grader this fall. (from Opal Temple)

—Orange—



This bathing beauty is four year old Rebel Dickerson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Dickerson of Orange. James is a lineman in the T&D Department. Rebel displayed her bikini clad figure during the Water Festival activities at the Jack Tar Hotel. She was too young to participate in the Miss Water Sport contest, but just you wait a few years. (from Davie Carpenter)

—Jennings—



Stella Marie Devall, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John T. Devall (retiree in Jennings T&D), has graduated from Jennings High School with honors, seventh in a class of 193. Among her many honors are Who's Who in American High Schools and several scholarships based on academic and music ability. She plans to attend USL in the fall. (from Earl Mayfield)

—Lafayette—



This cute bundle of energy is Donna Jo Lafont, 12-week old daughter of Donald J. Lafont of Lafayette. Donna Jo is already showing signs of being a beautiful woman, something South Louisiana ladies are famous for. (from Bobbie Denais)

—Denham Springs—



Miss Ladonne Hood is just one reason why Denham Springs High School usually fills its football stadium. This pretty lass is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Donald Ray Hood (Area Development Representative-Baton Rouge). The colonel of the Jackettes, Ladonne leads her group in performing at many school functions including athletic events. Ladonne is a senior. Membership in the group is an exclusive honor requiring scholastic ability as well as beauty. (from Lenelle Juban)

Beaumont



Perry Blanchette, Beaumont T&D, traded a hard hat for a chef's hat recently when he helped prepare a shrimp dinner for company bowlers. The bowlers, members of the Big Ten League, held their annual get-together at Neches Station and awarded the trophies to team and individual winners. (from the Editor)



Jo Sterling, Beaumont Credit & Collections, shows off her "Reddy Cake" which she baked and decorated just for her fellow workers to share. It was almost a shame to cut it, said her co-workers, but it was just too good not to eat. (from Jim Harper)



J. J. Scott, Director of Accounting Operations in Beaumont, presents Robert Sheffield with a going away present. Robert has been named Superintendent of the Silsbee District following the death of former Superintendent Ross Iles. (from Jim Harper)



Ellen Bean, formerly with T&D Engineering in the Beaumont Service Center, came back for a visit, and brought a very special guest. Ellen left to await the stork last year. The result of that wait is Wallace Thomas Bean. Born in October, Wallace weighed in at seven pounds, five ounces. Now five months old, Wallace tips the scales at 18 pounds. (from Linda McSwain)

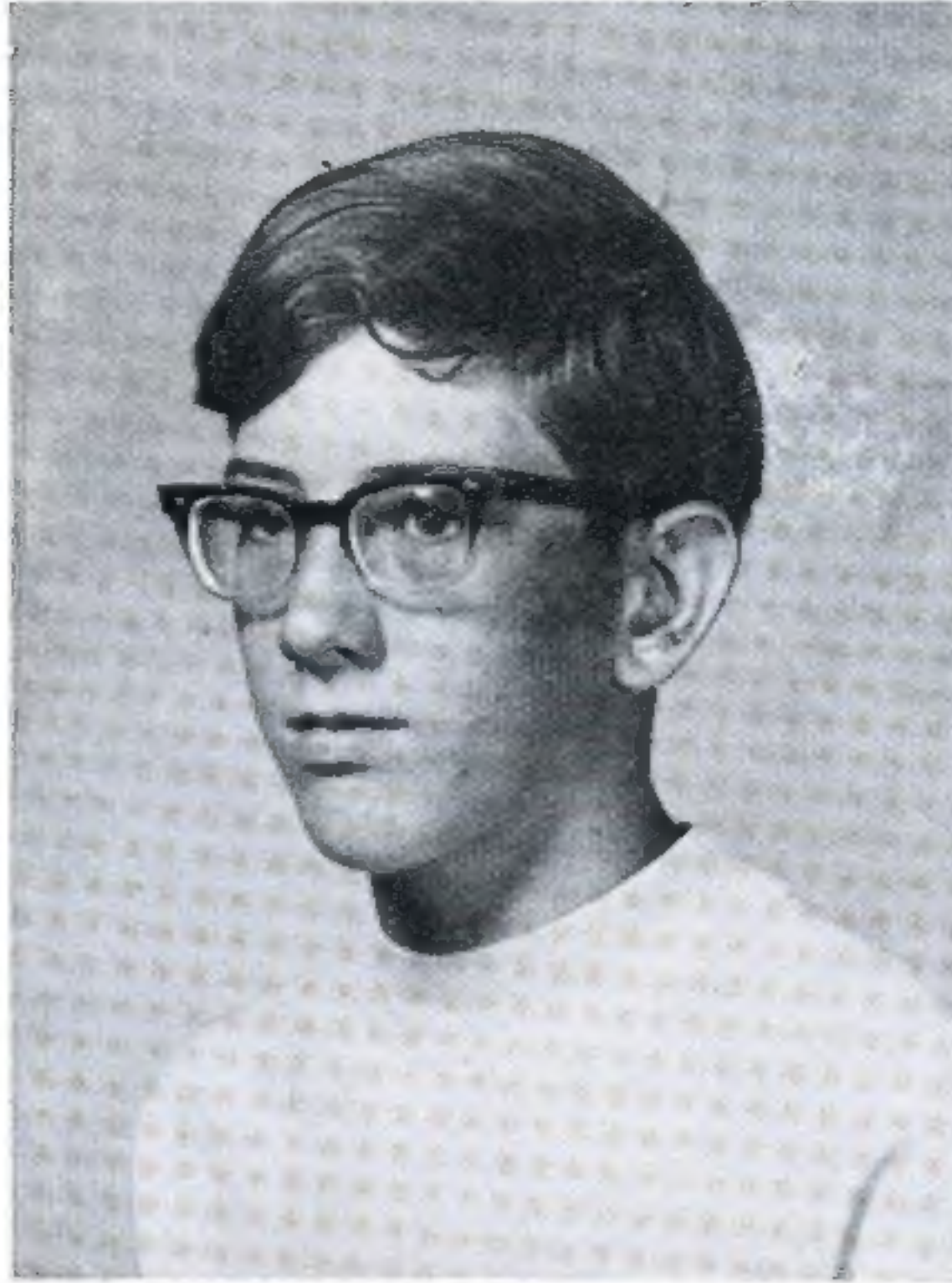


We can't blame our men at Sabine Station if they were slightly distracted recently. A group of girls from the Corporate and Finance Department in Beaumont visited the plant on a weekend to do some crabbing. Jan Schneider, left, and Camilla Adams were just two of them. Shortly after this picture, several volunteers stepped up to clean the crabs for the ladies. Other ladies in the group were Dru Plunkett, Sandra Angelle and Darlene Roberson. (from Sandra Angelle)

—Port Arthur—



J. C. Queen, meterman first class in Port Arthur, is the proud father of two graduates. His oldest daughter, Kay (above), graduated from East Texas Baptist College in Marshall, Texas in elementary education. His youngest daughter, Denise, (below), graduated from Port Neches-Groves and plans to attend North Texas State University in Denton. The Queens also have a son, Ted. (from Lorraine Dunham)



Gerald Timothy Powell, son of Mrs. Helen Powell and the late Rev. Gerald W. Powell, was recently inducted into the Groves Junior High chapter of the National Honor Society. Tim has also won scholastic awards in History and Life Science. His mother is a stenographer in the Port Arthur T&D Department and works for Frank W. Jones. (from Frank Jones)

—Lafayette—

Sympathies to J. K. Powell, service foreman, and J. J. Hopkins, line foreman, upon the loss of their mothers after extended illnesses.

Congratulations to proud papa Thomas J. Smoak, engineering assistant, on the recent birth of baby girl Tracy Michelle. Tom is out-numbered at home -- this is his third daughter.

John W. Lamm, district superintendent, is better known around Lafayette as "Paw Paw" when he recently became a grandfather of a bouncing baby boy known as (naturally) John Brant Lamm.

We wish to wish George Parton, Jr., son of George Parton, Sr., asst. general substation foreman, a speedy recovery from his recent motorcycle accident. He is back home from the hospital and is doing quite well.

—Lake Charles—



Karen Schwenneker, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Schwenneker of Lake Charles, is a recent graduate from Sam Houston High School. Two of her many honors include Who's Who Among High School Students, and membership in the Society of Outstanding American High School Students. Karen plans to attend McNeese State University in the fall. Karen's mother, Katherine, is a departmental clerk in the Lake Charles office. (from Johnnie Harris)

Alyson and Tammy Bondurant, daughters of Mr. and Mrs. Joe Bondurant, are enthusiastic participants in Cotton Candy Players, the youngest group of Lake Charles ACTS (Artists Civic Theatre and Studio). In May Tammy played of the three Good Fairies in "Rapunzel," while Alyson gave an outstanding performance as the Queen in "The Princess and The Pea." Incidentally, the "Bug" has bitten Sarah and Joe who are both in on the fun hard at work backstage. (from Johnnie Harris)

Sharon's Suggestions



Sharon Smith, Home Service Advisor in Orange, is this month's featured cook. Sharon is a native of Orange, and a Home Economics Education graduate from the University of Houston. She is married to Edward W. Smith, a chemical engineer for Gulf Oil Research and Development in Orange. Sharon is quite active in her field. She is a member of the American Home Economics Association, Home Economists in Business (past membership chairman), and Sabine Area Home Economists (the current treasurer). Sharon has been a member of our company for the past four and one-half years. Her recipes are guaranteed to please.

CHICKEN CURRY

- 1 chicken
- 1 tbsp. whole cumin seed
- 2 tbsp. ground cumin seed
- 5-6 whole cloves
- 2 tbsp. curry powder
- 5 shakes paprika
- 3 tbsp. oil
- 1 large bell pepper, chopped
- 1 large onion, chopped
- Salt, to taste
- 1 can Ro-Tel tomatoes
- 1 pkg. frozen peas and carrots

Simmer chicken until tender in salted water. Debone and cut into serving pieces. Cook cumin seeds, cloves, curry powder, paprika, bell pepper, onion and salt in 3 Tbsp. oil for 10 minutes. Add tomatoes, peas and carrots and chicken. Simmer 30-40 minutes until ready to serve. If chicken curry becomes too thick, add a small amount of water. Stir occasionally. Serve over rice pilaf. Serves 4.

PILAF

- 1 tbsp. whole cumin seed
- 2 tbsp. ground cumin seed
- 5-6 whole cloves
- 2 tbsp. curry powder
- 5 shakes paprika
- 1 pkg. frozen peas and carrots
- 3 tbsp. oil
- 1 large bell pepper, chopped
- 1 large onion, chopped
- 1-cup raw rice
- ½ cup raisins
- 2 cups water

Mix seasoning in large pan. Add remaining ingredients. Bring to boil, cover, and cook on lowest heat setting of electric range for 30 minutes.

CHEESY CHICKEN CASSEROLE

- 2 large chicken breasts (2 cups cubed)
- 1½ cups cooked rice
- One 10 oz. pkg. frozen Broccoli
- 4 tbsps. butter or margarine
- 1 cup bread crumbs
- 1 medium onion, finely chopped
- 1½ tbsp. flour
- ½ tsp. salt
- ¼ tsp. pepper
- 1½ cups milk
- 4 slices American cheese

Simmer 2 large chicken breasts in salted water until tender. Cool, debone and cut into cubes. Spoon cooked rice into a greased 1½ quart casserole. Layer broccoli over rice. Melt butter; remove 2 Tbsps. and sprinkle over bread crumbs in a bowl; set aside. Saute onion in remaining butter. Blend in flour and seasonings. Slowly stir in milk. Cook, stirring constantly until thickened. Add chicken; heat until bubbly. Pour into casserole. Layer cheese over chicken mixture. Sprinkle on buttered crumbs. Bake at 350 degrees for 45 minutes or until top is golden brown. Serves 6.

Note: Leftover turkey or ham could be used instead of chicken.

24-HOUR FRUIT SALAD

- 2 egg yolks, beaten
- 2 tbsps. sugar
- 2 tbsps. vinegar
- 2 tbsps. pineapple juice
- 1/8 tsp. salt
- 1 tbsp. butter
- 2 cups seedless grapes or white cherries, drained
- 2 cups pineapple tidbits, drained
- 2 oranges, cut in pieces, or 1 can mandarian oranges, drained
- ½ cup halved Marachino cherries, drained
- 2 cups miniature marshmallows
- ½ cup almonds
- 1 cup heavy cream

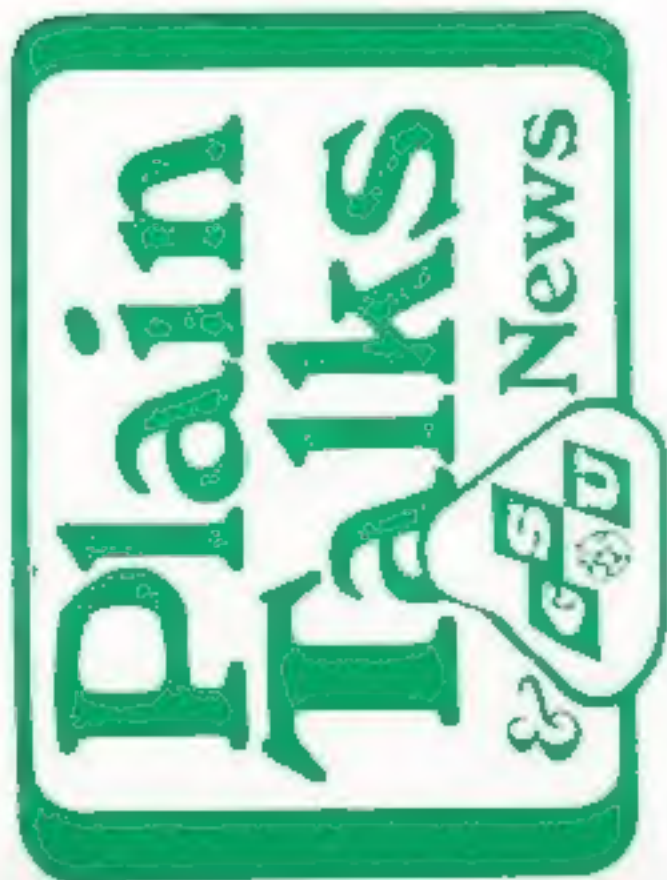
Combine egg yolks, sugar, vinegar, juice and salt. Cook on medium heat of electric range until thick, stirring constantly. Add butter; cool. Combine fruit, nuts, and marshmallows; stir into custard mixture. Fold in whipped cream. Chill 24 hours in frostless refrigerator. Serves 10-12.

Note: Substitute seasoned fresh fruit if desired.

STRAWBERRY ICE CREAM

- 2 cans sweetened condensed milk
- 2 large cans evaporated milk
- 1 bottle strawberry soda
- 2 pkg. frozen strawberries, thawed milk

Combine all ingredients, blend thoroughly. Pour into a one gallon freezer. Then add enough milk to fill the freezer can within 2-3 inches of the top. Freeze according to manufacturers directions.



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